

Superintendent

APR 23 1984

Memorandum

To: Area Director

From: Superintendent, Laguna Agency

Subject: Reclamation of the Jackpile-Paguate Mine

Confidential Claim Retracted

Authorized by: SC

Date: 6/2/13

The attached letter from Governor Vincenti Pedro, Sr., is self-explanatory. Following our conversation of April 17, 1984, I have made an analysis of our funding situation. I have determined that by making adjustments in the scheduling of work we had planned to accomplish, I can make \$10,000 available toward a contract with the Pueblo to help fulfill the commitment made by Assistant Secretary Smith.

I take this opportunity to again express my concern that the Anaconda Minerals Company has put the Pueblo in an unfair and unrealistic position by requiring a decision from the Council, within 30 days, regarding the acceptance or refusal of the Company's offer. You are aware that the Company has offered a payment of \$40,200,000 to the Pueblo for assuming the responsibility for reclamation. I am deeply concerned that a realistic cost of reclamation cannot be established, for two reasons: The environmental impact statement has not been finally developed; and a final decision has not been made as to the reclamation measures that will be required, due to the need for additional studies and evaluation. I will grant that the Company's offer is very attractive, as it would result in much needed employment for residents of the Pueblo and could conceivably generate some income to the Pueblo. Some questions still unanswered at this point are whether or not the Trustee would permit the Pueblo to enter into such a relationship with the Company and, if so, the degree of liability that would be assumed by the Pueblo under such an arrangement.

Please provide me with some direction in this matter. I am concerned that if the Bureau does not take some positive steps to assist and guide the Pueblo in considering and deciding upon issues such as the Anaconda proposal, we will be failing in our role as the principal advisor to the Pueblo. This is the role in which the Pueblo wants the Bureau to perform.

/s/ Roland E. Johnson

Superintendent

Attachment



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